

**CHAPTER 177:
BUT IF YOUR HEART STILL...**

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
DOING
...

**IF THIS
ISN'T
THE
JOKER**

DIE !!!!

AS THE GODS WILL

THE SECOND SERIES

**LILY
?!?!**



LEAVE
THIS
GAME,
AKASHI.

SUMMARY: IN THIS LAST GAME OF "BLOODSTONE CARD MAID," THE INSANEHAI NUMBER OF SURVIVORS LEFT ARE TWO OF THE REMAINING THREE PLAYERS... AKASHI, USHIMITSU, AND LILY DISCUSS THEIR FEELINGS AND DECIDE TO SETTLE IT "FAIR" AND SQUARE! BUT JUST WHEN THEY THOUGHT THINGS WERE GOING WELL, LILY BETRAYS AKASHI! IS AKASHI DOOMED?

YOU
HAVE
TWO
"4's
IN
YOUR
HAND
NOW,
RIGHT?

IF

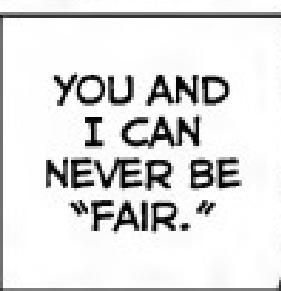
IF

THAT
IS WHAT
I CALL
"FAIR."



TO
STAND
ALONG-
SIDE
YOU.

I HAVE
SINNED
FAR TOO
MUCH...



YOU AND
I CAN
NEVER BE
"FAIR."

UNLESS
I ATONE
FOR EVERY-
THING I'VE
DONE...



WHAT I
DID TO
YOU...
AND...



ALL THE
PEOPLE
I KILLED
IN THE
NAME OF
JUSTICE...



I CAN'T
PRETEND
ALL THAT
DIDN'T
HAPPEN!

THE TIME
I SPENT
WITH
THEM...

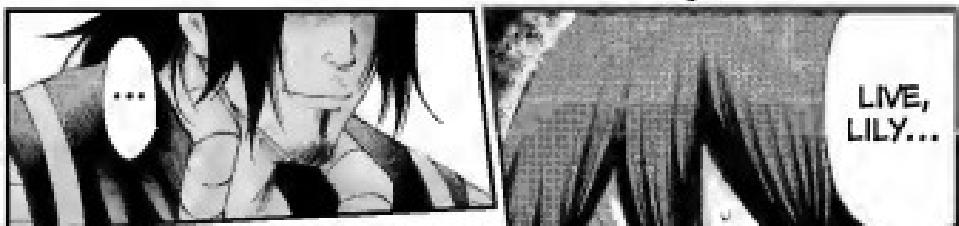


I DON'T
DESERVE
TO LIVE...
YOU DO...



SO I
WILL DIE
HERE
WITH MY
SINS.

THAT
IS HOW
I WILL
USE MY
LIFE.



IF YOU
GIVE ME
ONE OF
THOSE
NEXT TURN,
I'LL DIE.

YOUR
HAND
IS TWO
4'S.

DIDN'T
YOU,
LILY?

YOU
KNEW
ALL THIS
BEFORE
YOU GAVE
IT TO
HIM...

AND
THAT'S
NOT
ALL...

AH...

AND I
WILL BE
LEFT
ALONE
WITH THE
JOKER,
MEANING
GAME
OVER.

YEAH...
AND IF
AKASHI
DIES...

THAT
SYNCH
CARD
WILL KILL
YOU AS
WELL.

SO UNLESS
AKASHI
DISCARDS
THOSE
CARDS
RIGHT NOW,
WE WILL
ALL DIE...



ALL
YOU
CAN
DO IS
GET
OUT
OF THE
GAME,
AKA-
SHI.



I MAY HAVE
LIVED MY
ENTIRE LIFE
TO THIS
POINT...IN
ORDER TO
LET YOU
LIVE NOW...

WHEN THE
TWO OF YOU
SAID THE
THREE OF
US COULD
BE "FAIR"
WITH EACH
OTHER...

IT
MADE
ME
HAPPY
...



NOW
GET OUT
OF THIS
GAME,
AKASHI...

...I HAVE
NO RE-
GRETS...



I DON'T
THINK
DYING
FOR THAT
REASON
IS RIGHT.

SURE,
YOU
CAN'T
ERASE
YOUR
"PAST,"
BUT...

DON'T
USE
YOUR
"PAST"
AS AN
EXCUSE.

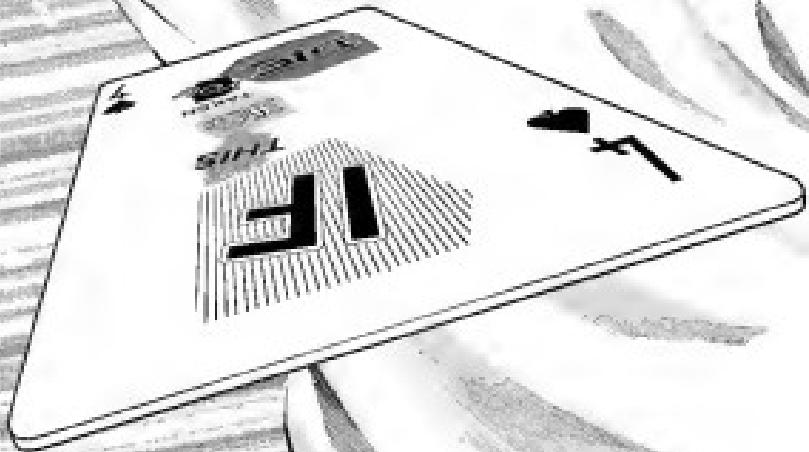
ALL OF
THAT
TOGETHER
IS YOU,
AM I
RIGHT,
LILY?

BECUSE
IT'S NOT
ALL PAIN
AND MIS-
TAKES...

THERE
ARE GOOD
AND FUN
THINGS
IN YOUR
"PAST" TOO,
RIGHT?



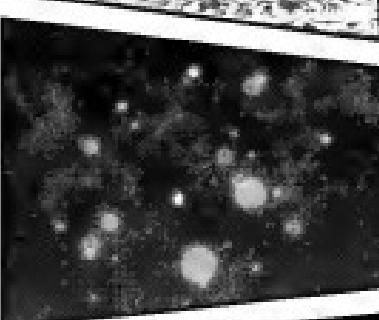
YOUR
REASON
TO LIVE
CAN
ONLY BE
FOUND
...





**IN THE
FUTURE!**

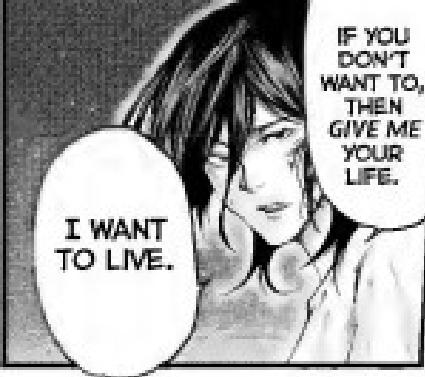




I'LL BE
WAITING
IN THE
FUTURE.







AKASHI
IS MY
"FUTURE"

...

NO...
MAYBE
HE'S MY
"DREAM."

DREAM
...?

I CAN
BELIEVE
THAT
AKASHI
BELIEVES
IN ME...

SO NOW
I AM NO
LONGER
LONELY.

THIS
"REGRET"
AND
"SIN" AND
"PUNISH-
MENT" AND
"REASON
TO LIVE"
BUSINESS...

YOU'RE
MORE THAN
REMORSE-
FUL...

NOW,
LISTEN
CLOSER
TO YOUR
HEART.

LET'S
FORGET
ALL
ABOUT
THAT, LILY.

IF YOU
TRULY
WANT
TO DIE,
THEN
GIVE ME
THAT
LIFE.

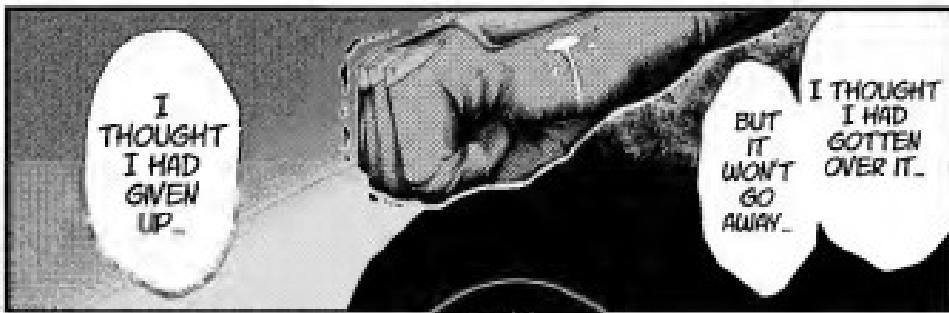
BUT...

IF YOUR
HEART STILL...

HOLDS
EVEN...

**THE
SLIGHTEST
GLIMMER OF
A DREAM...**





WITH
THEM
...

THAT'S
THE
SPIRIT,
MY FAIR
FRIEND.

LET'S
SETTLE
THINGS
BETWEEN
OUR TWO
DESIRES
TO LIVE.

TO BE CONTINUED...